

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in response to the Final Office Action mailed April 28, 2003. A Request for a One-Month Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) is submitted herewith, along with the fee prescribed by 37 CFR 1.17(a)(1). The response is therefore timely.

As explained below, the amendments submitted herein place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that entry of these amendments is proper under 37 CFR 1.116.

In the Final Office Action, Claims 1 and 8 were rejected as unpatentable over EP 0563483. Claims 2-7, 9, and 10 were held to define allowable subject matter, but were objected to as depending from a rejected claim.

By the above amendments, Claim 1 has been rewritten to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 2. Claim 2 has been cancelled, and Claims 3 and 6 have been amended to depend from Claim 1. Claims 8 and 9 have been cancelled, and the patentable subject matter of Claim 9 has been incorporated in new independent Claim 11. Claim 10 has been amended to depend from new Claim 11.

It is respectfully submitted that Claims 1, 3-7, and 10, as amended, are now patentable, as is new Claim 11.

The proposed drawing correction filed February 10, 2003 was disapproved because the proposed correction to Fig. 6 was not made in compliance with MPEP §608.02(v). Accordingly, a new “Annotated Sheet Showing Changes” is submitted herewith, with the corrections to Fig. 6 being marked thereon. Specifically, the electric motors 100, pinions 101, magnetic markers 102, and sensing means 103 described in the specification (in the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 8, as previously amended) are now illustrated, and have been highlighted by being circled in red ink, in compliance with MPEP §608.02(v). In addition, a replacement sheet, showing the amended Fig. 6 in final form, is submitted herewith.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested, and passage of the application to issue is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
KLEIN, O'NEILL & SINGH, LLP

By:


Howard J. KLEIN
Reg. No. 28,727

2 Park Plaza, Suite 510
Irvine, Ca 92614
949-955-1920
949-955-1921